Export of Monkeys and Frogs

3582. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether monkeys and frogs are still being exported from our country;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what is Government's policy in regard to these exports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) to (c) Export of froglegs has been banned with effect from 1.4.1987. Export of monkeys for commercial purposes has been banned from 1977. Export of frogs and monkeys for specific research or zoological purposes is decided on the basis of merits of each case.

Report of wage Board for Journalists and Non-Journalists

3583. SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the report of the Wage Board for journalists and non-journalists has since been finalised and presented to Government; and

(b) if not, by when it is likely to be finalised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The Chairman of the Wage Board has been requested to finalise his report at the earliest.

Request for effecting changes in Labour Laws in Punjab

3584. SHRI N. E. BALARAM: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether any representation has been received by the Central Government or the Punjab Governor from various trade union organisations demanding early reversal of the Barnala Government's decision to abolish the rural wing of the State Labour Department which was specially created under the 20-Point Programme to oversee the implementation of the Minimum Wages Act and other related labour laws in respect of agricultural workers, workers in PWD and brick kiln workers who had been left out by the Barnala Government; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Punjab Government is seized of the matter.

Supply of cotton by CCI on Credit to NTC

3585. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the mills under the management of National Textile Corporation Limited and its subsidiaries are facing an acute crisis for want of cotton;

(b) whether the Cotton Corporation of India Limited has refused to supply cotton on credit terms;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof;

(d) if the replies to parts (a) and (b) above be in the affirmative, what are the reasons for not taking appropriate steps at an early stage to store sufficient quantity of cotton till new crops come to the market or to the CCI; and

(e) what effective steps are being taken now in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) to (e) Do not arise.